

February 2010

The Sugar Maple Tree

By Brynn Baker

I am a sugar maple tree. I'm very big and strong and free. Many animals live in me. My wood is used for furniture, flooring, and boxes you see. I give you up to 60 gallons of sap a year. My leaves turn the brightest reds, oranges, and yellows of all the maples when fall is near. I'm a very important tree some say. On my branches is where children play. There are lots of things I do for you. My seeds make trees so large and new! I give you shade in the summer so hot. I give you your oxygen and paper a lot.

My sap will turn into  
Syrup for your  
Pancakes.  
Yummy  
Fruit is  
What my  
Branches  
Make.  
My roots  
Are strong in  
The ground.  
I'm a nice  
Tree to  
Have  
Around!

Janet Berry Elementary, Appleton  
Honorable Mention  
Teacher: Mrs. Debbie Tracy



Calendar Art by Josie May • School: North Lakeland, Manitowish Waters • Honorable Mention  
Teacher: Annemarie Jensen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Look for cardinals resting in trees or sitting at your birdfeeder. Soon they will begin their spring songs.	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 Halfway Point of Winter – Brighter days are ahead!	5	6 Great horned owls nesting.
7 Coyotes begin mating. Sometimes they will use abandoned badger, woodchuck, fox or skunk burrows to make their dens.	8 Paper was invented by the Chinese around 105 A.D	9	10 Arbor Day Poster Contest for 5th graders entries due. This year's theme: Trees are Terrific . . . and Energy Wise!	11	12 Can you name three ways trees keep you warm in the winter?	13 Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) Grant Submission Deadline
14 Valentine's Day Chinese New Year – Year of the Tiger	15 President's Day	16 Mardi Gras	17	18 Maple sap flows when day temperatures are above 40 degrees. Can you use three words to describe maple syrup?	19	20 Are there buds on the branches yet? Look closely with a magnifying glass.
21 Fun Forestry Fact: The sugar maple was selected to be our State Tree in 1893 in a vote by schoolchildren across Wisconsin.	22	23	24 Bobcats and mink begin mating.	25	26 Listen for the arrival of Canada geese. For them, spring has begun!	27 Name four birds that live in the forest.
28 Full (Snow) Moon						

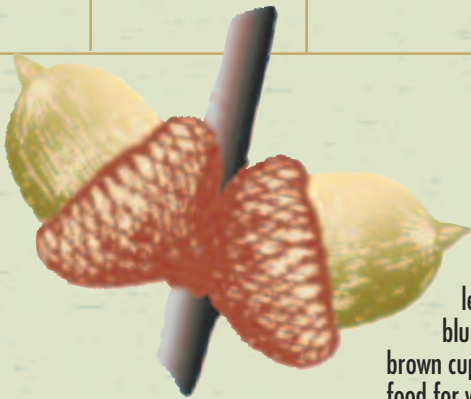
Red Oak  
(Quercus rubra)

**Form**  
Red oak trees are generally 70 to 90 feet tall. In forest settings, they grow tall and straight, with a clear trunk and narrow crown.

**Leaf**  
Red oak leaves have a length of 5 to 9 inches and a width of 4 to 6 inches. They are broader toward the tip and divided into 7 to 9 lobes, each extending ½ way to the mid-rib. Each lobe is somewhat coarsely toothed and bristle-tipped, and the leaves are dull green above and paler below.

**Wood**  
This oak has light, reddish-brown heart-wood. It is hard, strong and coarse, and is often used for flooring, furniture, railroad ties and fuel. The best logs are largely cut into veneer.

**Fruit**  
Red oak fruit is a large, bitter acorn, about 1 to 1½ inches in length and maturing during the second year. The acorns have a blunt top and flat base, and are enclosed in a very shallow, dark brown cup that is velvety inside. Red oak acorns are an important winter food for wild turkeys, deer, squirrels and many songbirds.



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JANUARY 10	MARCH 10
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3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
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